

is held on May 12 each year. In addition, the Lehigh Valley organization is actively involved in CFS-related research and regularly participates in seminars to train health care professionals. It is also important to note that the CFS Association of Lehigh Valley received the CFIDS Support Network Action Award in 1995 and 1996 for their public advocacy initiatives.

Although some progress has been made in the study of CFIDS, this condition is largely still a mystery. With no known cause or cure for the disease, victims experience a variety of symptoms including extreme fatigue, fever, muscle and joint pain, cognitive and neurological problems, tender lymph nodes, nausea and vertigo. The Centers for Disease Control has given CFIDS "Priority 1" status in the new infectious disease category which also includes cholera, malaria, hepatitis C and tuberculosis. The Lehigh Valley organization will persistently continue its research and education campaigns until this disease is obliterated.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to join me in commending the Lehigh Valley organization and in supporting the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, on May 12, 1999 the Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) Association of Lehigh Valley joined the Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome (CFIDS) Association of America, the largest organization dedicated to conquering CFIDS, in observing International Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome Awareness Day; and

Whereas, CFIDS is a complicated disease which is characterized by neurological, rheumatological and immunological problems, incapacitating fatigue, as well as a number of other symptoms that can persist for months or years and can be severely debilitating; and

Whereas, estimates suggest that hundreds of thousands of American adults already have CFIDS; and

Whereas, the medical community, as well as the public should receive more information and develop a greater awareness of the effects of CFIDS. While much has been done at the national, state and local level, more must be done to support patients and their families; and

Whereas, research has been enhanced by the efforts of the Centers for Disease Control, the National Institutes of Health and other private institutions, the CFS Association of Lehigh Valley recognizes that there is still much more to be done to encourage further research so that the mission of conquering CFIDS and related disorders can be achieved;

Therefore, the United States Senate commends the efforts of the CFS Association of Lehigh Valley, as well as those battling the disease and applauds the designation of May 12, 1999 as CFIDS Awareness Day.●

COLORADO BOYS RANCH

● Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to draw attention to an anniversary. Forty years ago yesterday, the Colorado Boys Ranch Foundation was incorporated. Yesterday they celebrated forty years as a leader in the field of youth work.

The Colorado Boys Ranch places emphasis upon youth, especially those

who are vulnerable to or troubled by the negative influences and pressures of our society. Their motto is "It's easier to build a boy than mend a man."

Thirty eight years ago, my predecessor, Senator John Carroll of Colorado, spoke on this floor on the merits of the then still new Ranch, and I am here to echo the spirit of his comments.

Colorado Boys Ranch was created through volunteer labor and public and private contributions. This ranch is located just north of La Junta, Colorado. In 1959 the La Junta Chamber of Commerce and the Colorado County Judge's Association had a vision to build a treatment center for wayward youth coming from broken and unloving homes. The City of La Junta had received from the United States Government an abandoned WWII air field, and they gave the Foundation the civilian housing area from that field. Businesses and volunteers immediately came forth with offers to help remodel this facility to accommodate plans for the Ranch.

Of the committee of ten that started the ball rolling, two are still alive. Of the four judges that were involved personally, only one remains. Their volunteerism inspired others over the past forty years, and the overall efforts have been great and still continue strong to help the Ranch in its great efforts.

Over the past forty years, 4,000 plus youth have been treated at Colorado Boys Ranch and over 85% have continued on to be productive citizens. The Ranch is accredited with commendation by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, and is certified and licensed by the Colorado Department of Human Services, Mental Health and Education.

The Colorado Boys Ranch program is based upon the following beliefs: That preserving families and family ties takes continual effort and a spirit of renewal. That youth require essential life experiences and skills to maximize their growth and development. That something special happens when the lives of youth and animals connect. And, that CARING BRINGS RESULTS.

Recently, the Ranch received the Samaritan Institute Award for Ethics. This prestigious award is presented annually to a non-profit organization that best illustrates the importance of ethical values through its chartered work and its partnership with the business community.

I commend the goals of the ranch, and its purpose as a leader in the field of working with vulnerable youth and helping them find their role in modern society. I invite you to visit the Colorado Boys Ranch should you ever be in the state—over its forty year history, it has served youth from over twenty states across our nation.

Mr. President, the fortieth anniversary of the Colorado Boys Ranch Founda-

tion would be special any day that it happened to fall upon, but today it is especially notable. We debate today on youth violence and youth crime, and ways to curb that horrible scourge. The Ranch has found a solution, a solution that will not perhaps work across the whole nation, but is certainly working for those it serves.

Following also in the path of Senator Carroll, I ask that an article from the Denver Post on the Ranch and its good works be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows.

[From the Denver Post, Jan. 23, 1999]

BOYS RANCH HELPS TROUBLED YOUTH

(By Keith Coffman)

Those seeking testimonials about how the horsemanship program helps troubled youth at the Colorado Boys Ranch don't need to look far. Current ranch residents will gladly oblige, thank you very much.

"Before I came here, I was living on the street, taking drugs and didn't care about anything, even myself," said George, a 17-year-old who's been at the ranch for six months. "Now I've learned responsibility by taking care of my horse and focusing on one objective at a time."

George is one of 60 youth at the ranch, a residential treatment center for troubled boys ages 12 to 18. He was facing jail time for a variety of petty crimes in Nevada. But after six months in Colorado, he now thanks his probation officer for giving him a second chance by suggesting the ranch.

"I still show a little stubbornness, but I've gotten better at listening to people," he said.

Located on 320 acres near La Junta in southeastern Colorado, the private, non-profit Colorado Boys Ranch offers therapy, education and pre-vocational training to its residents, many of whom are referred by courts and social service agencies nationwide.

A handful of residents and staff participated in several activities at this year's National Western Stock Show and Rodeo as part of the ranch's animal-assisted therapy program.

Boys in the program trained three roping, or heading, horses for entries by Colorado Boys Ranch ranch hands in the pre-circuit team roping event earlier in the show. They also showed a 4-year-old donated quarter horse in the halter competition.

Although insurance regulations prohibit residents from competing in rodeo and other events, the boys took pride in seeing their contributions to a major event like the National Western, said Jim Kerr, director of the horsemanship program for the Boys Ranch.

"They also get a chance to see our staff and other professionals as positive role models, which I think is very important," Kerr said.

But the horsemanship program isn't just about playing cowboy, Kerr said. The ranch teaches its charges all facets of horsemanship, from riding to the less-glamorous task of cleaning corrals. Classroom instruction also is incorporated into real world experience on the ranch.

For instance, Kerr said, students apply their math skills to calculate correct feed amounts for the animals they tend, or watch a mare give birth to a foal to get a valuable biology lesson. He said therapists also have found that many boys are more forthcoming in counseling sessions done during a leisurely horseback ride at the ranch, than those held in more formal office settings.

For many of the youth, relating to animals often helps them relate to people and prepare them for mainstream society, Kerr said.

That's the case for Thurman, 17, who was skipping school and getting into fights in his native Detroit before coming to the ranch 18 months ago.

Raising and halter breaking an orphaned filly named Sweet Pea, he said, has taught him to become disciplined enough to get on track for his high school equivalency diploma, with a goal of one day becoming an animal trainer.

"When my mom comes to visit me, she sees how I've changed," he said. "I used to be very angry and aggressive, and couldn't sit still."

But none of the ranch's success stories surprise Kerr, a former public school teacher.

"I witness a miracle a day here," he said.●

TRIBUTE TO ARLENE SIDELL

● Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute to Ms. Arlene Sidell, who will soon be retiring from a long and distinguished career in the U.S. Senate.

Ms. Sidell is the Director of the Senate Commerce Committee Public Information Office. She first came to the Committee 36 years ago, in March of 1963. Ms. Sidell is an extraordinary public servant, who has consistently served all the Members and staff on the Committee with total dedication and commitment.

The Commerce Committee, at a recent Executive Session, expressed its gratitude to Ms. Sidell for all she has done for the Committee and the Senate with extended applause.

Mr. President, I ask that the text of my statement made on Ms. Sidell's behalf at the Commerce Committee Executive Session held on May 5, 1999, be printed in the RECORD.

The statement follows:

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ARLENE SIDELL

Before we begin to consider items on today's agenda for our Executive Session, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge and extend my heartfelt thanks to Arlene Sidell. Arlene, sitting before us, is the Director of the Commerce Committee Public Information Office, and our official clerk for Committee Executive Sessions. This will be the last time we will see Arlene at one of our mark-ups, as she will soon be retiring from an exemplary career in public service.

Arlene began her tenure with the Commerce Committee 36 years ago, in March of 1963. She has served the Senate and our Committee with distinction ever since, and will certainly be missed. Again, Arlene, please know how grateful I am for your dedication, commitment and tireless efforts on behalf of the Members, both past and present, of this Committee.●

TRIBUTE TO ERNIE AND MICHELLE LOPEZ, FATHER-DAUGHTER TEAM

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I want to commend a most unique father-daughter team of New Mexicans for their excellent science and engineering accomplishments. Ernie Lopez, a teacher at Taos New Mexico Middle School and science coordinator for the Taos Municipal Schools, has consistently inspired Taos students to excel in science and engineering. That inspira-

tion is best characterized by his record of having at least one of his students at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair for 23 of the past 25 years.

I know Mr. Lopez was especially proud this year when his own daughter, Michelle Lopez, won one of the top prizes in this year's fair for the project judged to be the best zoology project at this year's Fair.

I want to add my enthusiastic congratulations to Michelle for the dedication and hard work that she has invested in her winning project. That work should lay a solid foundation for a future career marked by major contributions in her chosen fields.

Ernie Lopez was also honored at the International Fair, for "outstanding accomplishment as a science educator," one of seven teaching awards handed out at this year's Fair.

It's with great pleasure that I salute this superb father-daughter team from New Mexico. They serve as great inspiration to students and teachers in my home State.●

IN MEMORY OF LT. WILFRID "BILL" DESILETS

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to Lt. Wilfrid Desilets, a U.S. Army Air Corps P-47 pilot from Worcester, Massachusetts who was lost over New Guinea on August 18, 1943. His remains were recently located and identified, and I was privileged and deeply honored to assist his family—including one of his sisters, Therese Auger of Portsmouth, New Hampshire—with efforts to bring this case to resolution. I was also proud to attend the military funeral for Lt. Desilets this past weekend and to present the Flag of the United States to the surviving family members. Lt. Desilets was an American hero and a patriot who loved his country, loved his family, and loved to fly. He made the ultimate sacrifice for the cause of freedom during the Second World War, and I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize his unselfish service to his country.

But no words of mine can match the moving eulogy delivered by Therese's husband, Lt. Col. Elvin C. Auger, USAF-ret. Mr. President, I therefore ask that a copy of the eulogy, as delivered by Colonel Auger, appear in the RECORD.

The eulogy is as follows:

FLIGHT OFFICER WILFRID DESILETS: EULOGY BY LT. COL. RET. ELVIN C. AUGER, MAY 8, 1999

I would like to welcome all of you here today, a day this family has waited so long for.

I want to begin by thanking you, Senator Smith, for all the assistance you have given this family. Senator Bob Smith is from New Hampshire. He's my Senator. We thank you for being here today.

I have written this eulogy with the hope that all of you but especially our sons, daughters, and now our grand-children will get to know the Bill that we knew.

I would like to start by saying that I did know Bill and his family before he left for

the service and I am proud to say that I have been a member of this family for 55 years.

Now Bill grew up in this family with both loving and caring parents. He was the only boy with 7 sisters. To put it mildly these 7 sisters simply adored him, or as my wife would say today, "Bill was simply the best". Bill was a very handsome young man, very religious, started many a day in the service by going to early Mass. He was a good athlete, loved sports and played most all of them.

Now I'm not sure where Bill was on that Sunday, Pearl Harbor Day, but I can tell you for sure where he was very early the next morning. He, with a very good buddy called Kip would be at the Army Recruiting Office to volunteer and serve. Both men knew exactly what they wanted. Bill had to be a pilot and Kip wanted to be a gunner. Hopefully that day they thought Bill's gunner. Incidentally that young man Kip was not only Bill's good buddy, he was my big brother.

Now Bill was so good at writing letters home that to read them today is like reading a diary of his military career. In fact the first days in the service when he was issued his uniforms he would write, today I am a soldier.

Now Bill was off to basic training and as he completed it he would be devastated for the Army was sending him to radio operator school not pilot training. Though you know his heart was broken he would write, at least I'll be flying on a crew. Bill did go and complete radio school but then someone somewhere would decide that this young man should be given a chance for pilot training. Now you can imagine how high the morale would be and how his letters home would sound.

Now Bill was off for the pilot training program, preflight primary flying school, basic flying school, and then advance. Now advance being the final phase would terminate with Bill's graduation. We were all so proud of Bill for he was going to be an Army Air Corps pilot.

Two of Bill's very pretty younger sisters would go to Florida to be with him. They would be there the night before graduation to attend the squadron dance with Bill and his buddies and be there the following day with him for the ceremonies to pin the bars and coveted silver wings on Bill. I know for sure how very proud Bill felt that day, not only for completing his pilot training but also for having those two sisters there with him. I know for sure how he felt for in a couple of years later one of those sisters would be my wife and be there with me at my graduation to pin my wings on.

Now Bill must have finished high in his class for his first assignment would be to the 342 Fighter Squadron. Here he would be flying the P47 Thunderbolt. At that time it was one of our most modern and powerful fighter aircraft we had. Now what was even nicer, Bill would do his transition flying at the old Bedford Airport just 50 miles from home. This would be the happiest time for Bill and his family for when Bill had a little time off we could drive down and bring him home for visits. He was also close enough that on some of his local flights he might do just a little buzzing. What a thrill it was for me to see Bill and his fighter come screaming in low and pull up and away. At that time I would soon be old enough to join and I made up my mind that I had to be a pilot like Bill.

It was also at this time that Bill would marry his sweetheart Ann. Two short days after the wedding Bill and his squadron would have their orders and be on their way overseas. At the time it seemed like the cruelest, harshest thing that could happen. And it was, but now when I think back I would like to believe that at least Bill had some